THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Extension works relating to runways are generally carried out by Airports Authority of India (AAI) on the basis of firm demand from Airlines. No such demand exists or has been received for Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoli International Airport, Guwahati.

(b) and (c) During the last Haj operations at Kolkata airport in February 2005, only on two occasions Haj Pilgrims from Guwahati had to wait for departure to Guwahati from Kolkata not because of inadequate size of runway at Guwahati airport but due to other operational reasons of the concerned airlines.

Revision in Commission to Agents of AI

3409. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India suffered a huge loss due to suspension of sale of its tickets by the Agents of Air India from 1st April, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have now agreed to to revise the Commission and also agreed to most of the demands of the Agents of Air India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Air India has not suffered any loss due to the suspension of sale of tickets by a section of the Agents of Air India *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2005 as a large number of Agents have not joined the boycott and the flights to West bound destinations have operated almost to full capacity.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Establishment of new airports

†3410. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain State Governments have sought permission to establish new airports in view of the increasing number of tourists;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.